

Finishes

SHEETROCK® DUST CONTROL: HELPING TO CREATE HEALTHIER WORKPLACES



An easy-to-use finishing compound that delivers the highest level of performance while incorporating new technologies that help improve workplace air quality.

Benefits

USG Boral SHEETROCK® Dust Control is ideal for use in a wide range of applications including shop fitting, commercial developments and specialised worksites.

It is especially valued in renovation and repair projects, when keeping surrounding areas clean is paramount.

Description

SHEETROCK Dust Control is a lightweight, pre-mixed finishing compound designed for use as the final coat over plasterboard joints. Its unique formula reduces the amount of respirable airborne dust created during sanding.

Individual dust particles are heavier and clump together. They then land on the floor, resulting in significantly less particles distributed beyond the immediate work area either airborne or on distant surfaces.

- Breathe in clearer air with less dust
- Cleaner work site
- Less time on the job

On testing under the NIOSH Method 0600, SHEETROCK Dust Control produced respirable airborne dust at levels lower than current OSHA Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs) – which are in turn lower than the PELs set by Safe Work Australia.

Airborne Dust & the Australian Worker

The crystalline silica content of raw materials can vary considerably across industries. Exposure in the plasterboard industry comes from the use of gypsum and limestone. However, local sources of both are very pure, with low levels of crystalline silica content. Finished plasterboard and plasterboard jointing compounds typically contain less than 0.1 per cent respirable crystalline silica.

Silica dust is only harmful when it's inhaled deep into your lungs and deposited in the alveola spaces. This occurs when the particles are less than seven microns in size, which is smaller than can be seen by the naked eye. Particles this small are generated by the use of high-speed grinding and cutting tools.

An employee's (or worker's) level of risk is a combination of the type of material being handled and the manner of the activity being undertaken. While plaster-based products do contain very small amounts of quartz, the methods in which plasterboard is worked do not create particles this small. In addition, the use of SHEETROCK® Dust Control reduces the concentration of respirable dust in the air, further lessening exposure to the worker and others in the vicinity.

Standard Plaster



Dust Control



Dust particles are heavier and fall to the floor

Results

RESULTS FOR SHEETROCK DUST CONTROL		
Time-Weighted Average* (TWA) Respirable Crystalline Silica Dust Exposure	Below detectable limit **	SWA PEL = 100 µg/m ³
Time-Weighted Average* (TWA) Total Dust Exposure	>45% below PEL	SWA PEL = 10 mg/m ³

*Personal air samples were collected from the breathing zone of the worker. Air samples were collected and analysed for total dust (a.k.a. particulates not otherwise regulated - PNOR), respirable dust and respirable crystalline silica. SKC aluminium cyclones and SKC disposable parallel particle impactors (PPI) were used to selectively sample respirable dust. Total dust samples were analysed using NIOSH method 0500. Respirable dust samples were analysed for respirable dust and respirable crystalline silica per NIOSH Methods 0600 and 7500, respectively.

** Cyclone samples have a detection limit of 16 Qg/m³. PPI samples have a detection limit of 10 Qg/m³.

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